

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL NO. 604

94TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR COLEMAN.

Read 1st time February 27, 2007, and ordered printed.

TERRY L. SPIELER, Secretary.

2466S.011

AN ACT

To amend chapter 191, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to services provided during a natural disaster or terrorist attack.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 191, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 191.224, to read as follows:

191.224. 1. For purposes of this section, the following terms shall mean:

(1) "First responder", any person providing medical or health, law enforcement, peace keeping, evacuation, rescue or crowd control services within twenty-four hours of a natural disaster or terrorist attack, including volunteer services;

(2) "Natural disaster", a disaster caused in whole or in part by natural forces where such disaster leads to property damage in excess of one million dollars or leads to more than ten deaths;

(3) "Terrorist attack", an attack using violence and destruction to cause a change in any public policy or business policy where such attack leads to property damage in excess of one million dollars or leads to more than ten deaths.

2. The department of health and senior services shall provide health care coverage to any first responder to a terrorist attack or natural disaster for injuries caused in responding to the attack or disaster, including internal diseases and occupational diseases. State assistance under this section shall be available to an applicant only after the applicant has shown that he or she has exhausted all benefits from third party payers, including but not limited to, health insurers, domestic health services corporations, health maintenance

22 organizations, Medicare, Medicaid, other government assistance
23 programs, or workers' compensation. Nothing in this section shall be
24 construed to prevent an applicant from receiving benefits who has
25 previously settled a workers' compensation claim.

26 3. By January 1, 2008, and annually thereafter, each department
27 of state government shall report to the general assembly on their
28 respective preparedness for natural disasters and terrorist
29 attacks. The report shall include a response plan for the departments
30 to continue to provide services in the event of disruption of
31 transportation and telecommunications equipment and operation. The
32 report shall include the projections of how long such services will be
33 unavailable to the citizens of Missouri.

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